

# *Opportunities for Postsecondary Success*

*for Students with ID*

OPS


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# *Who we are...*



**Center for Community Partnerships —**  
a service and outreach arm of the  
Department of Occupational Therapy at  
Colorado State University

*...Supporting the inherent dignity,  
potential and full participation  
of all people.*

# *OPS At a Glance*

## ◎ **Opportunities for Postsecondary Success (OPS)**

- ◎ UDL instruction, technical assistance, research
  - Through OPS, providing UDL training at IHEs and in LEAs
- ◎ Student Self-Advocacy (SA) leading to success for students with ID through peer mentoring and transition coordination
  - SA is the foundation of supports being provided to students with ID



# *Findings from UDL Research at Colorado State University*

## ◎ **It helps me learn when the instructor...**

- ◎ presents information in multiple formats
- ◎ actively engages students in learning
- ◎ relates key concepts to the larger objectives of the course
- ◎ begins class with an outline
- ◎ summarizes key points
- ◎ highlights key points of instructional videos

Schelly, C., Davies, P., & Spooner, C. (2011). **Student Perceptions of Faculty Implementation of Universal Design for Learning.** *Journal of Postsecondary Education and Disability*, 24(1), 17-28.

# *UDL Institutionalization*

- ◎ How can we best institutionalize UDL into all aspects of course delivery in IHEs?
  - ◎ Research – the proof is in the data! With UDL implementation, students' perceptions re: course accessibility greatly improve.
  - ◎ Infusion of UDL training for new faculty, GTAs
  - ◎ Inclusion of UDL benchmarks in faculty annual evals
  - ◎ WIIFMs – 'What's In It For Me?'
    - Connect to University's and College's Strategic Plan re: persistence and retention

Schelly, et al (2011)



# Conclusion

- ③ As educators, it is our responsibility to support and empower students with ID who are coming to college, seeking employment, pursuing their dreams...
- ③ With the implementation of UDL and the supports we are providing these students, we are facilitating their...
- ③ ...opportunities for postsecondary success



# *How TPSID Money is Helping*

- ◎ Provision of individualized supports for students with ID to pursue their postsecondary dreams
- ◎ Educating the campus communities, high school transition programs and general education, community at large
- ◎ Getting the word out about the benefits of UDL and SA – put benefits in context re: students with ID
- ◎ Symposium on ASD recently held at CSU, with over 450 attendees!



# *What is working well.....*

- ◎ PR for the project is giving us (and OPE) local, state and national attention
- ◎ Upcoming feature on NPR
- ◎ With peer mentoring, transition coordination and UDL training and technical assistance, students are experiencing postsecondary success.



# *Thank you!*

OPS



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